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ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY REPORT

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Report Highlights

**Bloomberg
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Highlights

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LEADING THE NEWS

[Ocasio-Cortez Unveils Green New Deal to Reset Climate Policy](#) [\(1\)](#)

By Ari Natter

Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-N.Y.) released a sweeping package of environmental measures Feb. 7 that has pitted progressives in the House Democratic caucus against moderates over how far to go in pursuit of resetting the climate change debate.

[Pelosi Stops Short of Endorsing Ocasio-Cortez's 'Green New Deal'](#)

By Anna Edgerton and Ari Natter

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) didn't throw her support behind a sweeping package of climate-change measures unveiled Feb. 7 by Rep,

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-N.Y.), but Pelosi lauded the backers' "enthusiasm."

Some Climate-Hawk Democrats Cool on Green New Deal

By Dean Scott

Many Democrats who have been active on climate change aren't rushing to embrace the Green New Deal resolution unveiled Feb. 7, saying Congress is too far from a consensus on what to do about the issue.

Pelosi Names House Climate Panel Democrats (1)

By Tiffany Stecker

Eight Democrats have been named to a new House panel on solutions to curb climate change.

Top EPA Climate, Clean Air Adviser Resigns After Two Years

By Dean Scott

The Trump administration's top air and climate adviser at the EPA for the past two years is resigning effective today, according to a Feb. 7 resignation letter sent to the White House and obtained by Bloomberg Environment.

EPA Lacks Authority to Undo Mercury Power Rule, Top Lawyer Says

By Amena H. Saiyid and Abby Smith

The EPA can't legally withdraw Obama-era toxic air pollution standards for power plants, even as it rewrites the cost justification for those limits, the agency's top lawyer said Feb. 7.

TODAY'S NEWS

Michigan Dropping More Pro-Industry Environmental Suits

By Alex Ebert

Michiganders seeking evidence of how elections can change the state's approach to environmental policy need only look at the cases from which Attorney General Dana Nessel (D) has announced the state would withdraw.

National Security Risk Feared in Foreign Clean Energy Tech (1)

By Bobby Magill

A U.S. economy based on clean energy technologies such as smart electric meters must produce and develop those devices domestically to protect national security, analysts said.

BLM Dropped Ball On Utah Oil and Gas Leases, Suit Says

By Steven M. Sellers

The Bureau of Land Management approved dozens of oil and gas leases across thousands of acres of public lands in Utah without conducting proper environmental and cultural studies, a new lawsuit alleges.

Green New Deal Would Cut U.S. Emissions & More: BGOV Closer Look

By Adam M. Taylor

The U.S. would achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions within 10 years under nonbinding resolution released by Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-N.Y.) and Sen. Ed Markey (D-Mass.).

Batteries Help Solar Break into Market Long Seen as Off Limits

By Brian Eckhouse and Christopher Martin

Solar is breaking into a power market that's long been the domain of big, conventional generators. A key reason: batteries.

Thomas & Betts to Bear Financial Brunt of Boston Canal Cleanup

By Bernie Pazanowski

Thomas & Betts Corp. is responsible for paying most of the costs to cleanup Mother Brook canal in Boston, the First Circuit said.

Monsanto, BASF Get Claims Trimmed in Dicamba Drift Suits

By Julie Steinberg

Monsanto Co. and BASF got claims trimmed from proposed class suits by soybean farmers who alleged their crops were damaged by dicamba weedkillers that drifted onto their fields.

Anti-OPEC Legislation Advanced by House Judiciary Committee

By Stephen Cunningham

The House Judiciary Committee voted Feb. 7 to approve "NOPEC" legislation that would authorize the Justice Department to pursue antitrust action against OPEC, clearing the bill for a possible House vote.

Chevron Aligns Strategy With Paris Deal But Won't Cap Output (1)

By Kevin Crowley

Chevron Corp. vowed to cut greenhouse gas emissions in alignment with the Paris Agreement on climate change, potentially averting a shareholder rebellion at its annual general meeting.

Weaknesses Undermine EU Car Emissions Test Reforms, Auditors Say

By Stephen Gardner

The European Union could have responded to the dieselgate scandal by copying the U.S. car emissions compliance system but instead chose an approach that remains vulnerable to manipulation by automakers, according to the European Court of Auditors.

European Energy Giant Is Thinking Twice About British Market

By Lars Paulsson and Jeremy Hodges

Vattenfall AB is reconsidering its plan to expand in the U.K. energy market, but it hasn't got anything to do with Brexit. The reason is that the Nordic region's biggest utility is finding the level of competition harder than expected.

'Brown Carbon' Jolts South Asia's Climate, Farms, Study Says

By Lou Del Bello

Focusing on a little-studied organic carbon compound could help unlock how air pollution affects South Asia's unique climate patterns and agriculture, scientists say.

Roundup's Benefits • Pakistan and Renewables • Environmental Law Gathering

By Chuck McCutcheon

The weed killer Roundup and its active ingredient, glyphosate, have drawn much unwanted attention of late. But glyphosate still has its advocates.

Invasive Weed Creep Spurs Concern Over Roundup Bans

By Adam Allington

The threat to public lands posed by invasive plant species is increasing by about ten million acres each year, and conservationists fear they will lose their best tool to combat it.

Pakistan Tax Exemption Could Lure Renewable Energy Makers

By Lou Del Bello

Pakistan's latest renewable push could be a step to help address debt paralyzing the country's energy sector, according to analysts.

New Benchmarks Revive Decade-Old EU Pesticide Sustainability Law

By Stephen Gardner

New indicators to measure pesticides sales could be a sign the European Union is finally speeding up its implementation of a 10-year-old law to curtail use of those chemicals.

INSIGHT

INSIGHT: How Do Outside Counsel Make the Grade? Tips From an In-House Cost Cutter

Bill Morrison served in house at one of the nation's largest public healthcare companies, Tenet Healthcare Corp., and had to work with more than 100 law firms. Now at Haynes and Boone, LLP, he says his mission at Tenet was to trim outside counsel and he selected law firms based on responsiveness, cost predictability, and value.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT WRAPUP

Neurotoxic Pesticide Ban Case to Get Heard by Full Ninth Circuit

By Tiffany Stecker

A federal appeals court will review a decision to ban chlorpyrifos, an insecticide linked to intellectual delays in children, in a win for the agriculture industry.

Salmon Farm in Chilean National Park Angers Indigenous People

By Tom Azzopardi

Plans to allow salmon farming in the waters around Chile's new Hawaii-sized national park are pitting indigenous fishing communities against the country's booming salmon exporters.

PG&E Fire Plan Could Cut Lights for Customers Outside Risk Areas

By Mark Chediak

Californians who live outside high-risk areas could be left in the dark as part of a sweeping PG&E Corp. plan to reduce wildfires.

Gas Explosion in San Francisco Triggers Evacuation Order

By Will Wade

San Francisco emergency workers are ordering people to evacuate the area surrounding a natural gas explosion.

Michigan Governor, Legislature Spar Over Environmental Reviews

By Alex Ebert

The GOP-controlled Michigan Legislature is moving to rescind a Gov. Gretchen Whitmer (D) executive order that dissolves industry-favored environmental regulatory review panels.

Canada Aims to Protect Major Projects From Court Challenges

By James Munson

Canada wants to give controversial industrial projects like the C\$4.4 billion (US\$3.3 billion) expansion of the Trans Mountain crude pipeline a better chance of surviving court challenges, by increasing the list of issues considered at their approval process, federal officials said Feb. 6.

Energy Agency Seeks to Roll Back Lightbulb Efficiency Standards

By Rebecca Kern

The Energy Department proposed to cut by nearly half the number of lightbulbs that would be subject to energy efficiency standards.

U.K. Post-Brexit Environment Plan Lacks Bite, Autonomy, Groups Say

By Ali Qassim

Plans for a post-Brexit environment oversight body fail to provide the watchdog with sufficient independence or enforcement powers, businesses and environmental lawyers said at a Feb. 6 parliamentary hearing.

Bloomberg Environment

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